

Delays Charged in City Signal Planning

Torrance Press-Herald

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WALTERIA GONDOLIERS ... Motorists traveling on Pacific Coast Highway between Hawthorne Avenue and South High School found the going plenty wet. Press-Herald cameraman Hal Fisher spotted a couple of "Bugs" splashing merrily through the waterway Monday morning while inspecting flooding conditions in the area.

Mud Battle Continues; City Sends Out Crews



FIGHTING MUD TIDE ... Residents along the 3900 block of Newton Street fill and place sandbags in an all-out effort to stop flowing mud from entering their homes during the heaviest hours of rain Sunday night and Monday morning. Although mud threatened a number of homes in the Newton and Bluff Street areas, efforts of homeowners and workmen called to the scene averted much of the damage.

5.78 Inches Of Rain Hits City in Storm

The season's first major rainstorm which has dumped nearly six inches of water on Torrance since it arrived Sunday continued today to threaten a number of South Torrance homes with oozing mud as city and private crews fought to hold back the gooey tide.

Help for the embattled residents along the 3900 block of Newton Street and on Bluff Street above it was provided Tuesday by city crews who added manpower and sandbags to the battle.

ANXIOUS residents who could see a break in the skies early today were told that more rain was on the way with heavy rains due throughout the day and continuing tomorrow.

Official weather station equipment at the Torrance

Municipal Airport had recorded a total of 5.78 inches of rain up to 7 a.m. today.

The 3:30 p.m. Sunday reading showed the area had received .69 inches. Another 2.84 inches had fallen by 3:30 p.m. Monday, and 1.57 inches more by 3:30 p.m. Tuesday. A special reading at 7 this morning showed that .68 inches had fallen overnight.

THE BATTLE against mud began Sunday night when storm water along Bluff Street broke over temporary drains and began eroding recently filled ground. Developer J. H. Barton had extended a bluff over the Walteria area as home sites.

Barton was only two weeks away from completing a drainage system which prob-

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Trash, Pay Boost Plans Off Again

Torrance Councilmen were supposed to dispose of a couple of sticky problems last night at a 5 p.m. pre-council session, but both items were sent back to committee.

The 30-minute work session was called to discuss the council's own plan to seek a pay hike from the city's voters and to examine proposed new requirements for trash containers.

The salary matter moved a step closer to disposition with the introduction of actual figures for the first time. The council's finance committee will work on the proposed charter amendment at a meeting next Monday at 11 a.m.

TWO AMENDMENTS were proposed last night by City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier. Both reflected the general discussion of a week ago, when city fathers heard several organizations offer support for a vote of the people on the matter.

One amendment would incorporate salary provisions applicable to general law cities into the Torrance City Charter. Under existing law, councilmen could draw \$300 per month if the plan is approved.

The second amendment calls for an additional \$100 per month for the mayor, giving him a total of \$400 per month.

Councilman Wants Action On Signaling

Has the city been dragging its feet in street and highway construction?

Councilman J. A. Beasley thinks the city has, and he wants some fast action from the City Manager's office to prevent the city from being choked by traffic.

Beasley said he and several other councilmen have been trying to get something done about traffic in the vicinity of Del Amo Center "for two years." Now, he ad-

CITY FATHERS expressed satisfaction with the proposal, but David K. Lyman objected to two charter amendments. "I see no reason why they can't be combined," Lyman said.

"I have no objection to the extra \$100 for the mayor," he added, "but either they (the voters) agree to the added compensation or they don't."

Other councilmen agreed with Lyman, so the matter was referred to committee.

EARLIER, the Torrance Police Officer Association had suggested salaries of \$400 per month for councilmen and \$600 for the mayor.

Police Officer Raymond Silagy said the increase was needed and should be "commensurate with the responsibilities" of the council.

The trash problem, however, moved no closer to solution. City Manager Edward J. Ferraro and City Engineer Walter Nollac pointed toward a high injury rate among trash collection crews and said the new requirements would lessen injuries and improve efficiency.

Nollac said the only changes from the present requirements are for a round, tapered barrel with a lid. Tapered containers, he added, are easier to empty and do not require banging about in order to remove all trash.

"HOMEOWNERS normally will keep two or three containers," H. Ted Olson said, "but what does he do when he moves and must put out 60 boxes?"

Nollac said the city would pick up trash in such a case. "We are talking about the 5 per cent who continue to put out boxes and other containers," Nollac said.

Mayor Albert Isen then suggested some latitude in the ordinance which would permit homeowners to put out two or three boxes of weeds or to call the city when they are moving.

Councilman David K. Lyman insisted the present ordinance is sufficient if the city will enforce it. He moved to send the ordinance to the council's public works committee, where, he said, he would present his "case against it."

Explorer Scout Visits Houston Space Facility

South High junior Timothy Chang has his feet back on the ground, but his mind is still soaring.

Chang recently traveled to Houston to visit the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Manned Spacecraft Center. The visit was sponsored by the Thompson-Ramo-Woodruff Space Technology Laboratories in Redondo Beach, which sponsors Explorer Post 348X.

Change was one of 12 Boy Scouts and Explorers to qualify for the first Space Exploration Badge awarded by the Boy Scouts. He is the only Californian to earn the new Scout badge.

MOST THRILLING experience of the visit, Chang said, was the luncheon at which the merit badges were presented to the Scouts. Dr. Robert R. Gilruth, director of the Manned Spacecraft Center, presided. The badges were presented by a couple of former Boy Scouts, Astronauts Edward H. White and James A. McDivitt, veterans of the Gemini 4 flight.

White, Chang recalled, is the only American ever to "walk" in space.

Also attending the luncheon were five other astronauts—all of them former Eagle Scouts. They included Neil A. Armstrong, Roger B. Chaffee, Donn F. Eisele, James A. Lovell, and Elliot M. See Jr. Chang sat next to See, who was the back-up pilot for GT-5.

THE DOZEN scouts were given a complete tour of the Manned Spacecraft Center, including a visit to the acceleration simulator, a mission

Beer Bar Variance Wins Nod



TIMOTHY CHANG
Travels to Houston

control center, and the simulated lunar surface trainer.

Explorer Post 348X is composed of students from Aviation Leuzinger, Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills, Redondo, North, and South high schools. Some 30 of the 57 members are from South High, Chang said.

Chang is the son of Mr. and Mrs. K. T. Chang.

'Sing Out '65' To Visit North

North High School will host more than 100 high school and college students today at a "Sing Out '65" assembly. Sponsored by the Moral Re-Armament Conference, the Sing Out '65 group includes students from 40 nations. The group sings in small groups, selecting songs from a collection of 67 titles.

Beer Bar Variance Wins Nod

An ordinance which will require beer bars to secure a conditional use permit before opening in Torrance cleared its first hurdle last night during a meeting of the City Council.

Councilmen unanimously adopted the new ordinance on its first reading. It must pass a second vote before it becomes law.

While the primary purpose of the new law is to set forth the requirements and procedures for a conditional use permit, a section was added to give the city fathers some local control over the spread of beer bars in the city.

IT PROHIBITS the opening of beer bars in any commercial zone without a conditional use permit. Bars are excluded from other land use zones through other city statutes.

Under terms of the new law, a decision by the Planning Commission in a conditional use permit application is final unless the decision is specifically appealed to the council.

IN OTHER action, the council:

- Awarded a contract for the construction of a sidewalk on the South side of Pacific Coast Highway between Roberts Road and Calle Mayor. Sully-Miller Contracting Co. received the award on a low bid of \$5,652.
- Appropriated \$2,000 for

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Red Cross Bloodmobile To Be in Area Thursday

The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be stationed at Elk's Lodge 1748, 1820 Abalone Ave., tomorrow, from 2 to 6:30 p.m. under the sponsorship of the city of Torrance.

Scheduled for its quarterly public collection by the Torrance Red Cross Branch, the Bloodmobile will offer local men and women from 18 to 60 years of age an opportunity to conveniently participate in the Red Cross blood program.

Those wishing to make appointments to give blood are asked to call Red Cross TE 2-8321.

According to Stanley Heiman, local Red Cross chairman, 220 pints of blood have been set for the collection quota. Volunteers from Torrance will assist Red Cross

staff nurses and a doctor at the bloodmobile.

To qualify as a blood donor, men and women must be in general good health, weigh at least 110 pounds, and meet the donor standards set by Red Cross, the state and nation.

"A physician is always on duty during a mobile to discuss donor requirements with those in question," explains Heiman.

The need for blood increases daily, according to the Red Cross chairman, urging those who have never given blood to line up at the Thursday collection.

The blood program is one of the many Red Cross services made possible through the public's annual support quota. Volunteers from Torrance will assist Red Cross appeal.

Man Dies in Crash - - -

Paul Archie Medearis, 64, of 21000 S. Normandie Ave., died in surgery at Harbor General Hospital Monday night after receiving injuries in a collision at Normandie and 215th Street in Harbor City. Medearis was a passenger in a car driven by Earl Elmo Champion, 52, of the same address, when it collided with a car driven by Raul Licon, 27, of the Carson area.

Robbery Spree Charged - - -

A robbery spree which had been spread over six days came to an end after a chase down a Torrance Municipal Airport taxiway Sunday, according to Torrance police. Arrested were Walter Booker McAfee, 42, of Houston, Tex., and Robert Gene Hampton, 39, of Turlock, Calif. The pair were identified as escapees from a state prison camp. They are charged here with robbing El Rancho Liquors at 3217 Pacific Coast Hwy.

Paving Lots Ready ...

Come rain or sun, there'll be a ribbon cutting Friday morning in downtown Torrance. The occasion is the opening of new parking lots built through an assessment district which includes merchants in the downtown area. Ceremonies will be held at the lot on Sartori Avenue, beginning at 11 a.m. A luncheon will follow. A second lot is located on Post Street. Both have been built with funds raised through the Downtown Parking District assessments.

YMCA to Get Chair Bargain

Torrance YMCA got a bargain in chairs at last night's meeting of the City Council—260 chairs for a buck. The mayor's buck.

Since the city tore down its former civic auditorium in downtown Torrance several years ago, the wooden chairs have been collecting dust in city storage closets.

The Council decided the chairs could be sold to the YMCA for the nominal sum of \$1—and Mayor Albert Isen suggested a donation of 20 cents from each Councilman would be ample to cover the price without calling on YMCA funds.

A little carping by some and a reference by George Vico to the mayor's generosity settled the whole thing.

Mayor Isen whipped out a dollar bill and handed it to City Clerk Vernon Coil with instructions to see that the chair deal was closed.

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